M.R.O. 14—13,000—27-6-24

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Revenue **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No. 1420 Press ~~Mis.~~

369-370

Dated 26 6 1869.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

No. 369. Read the following letter from the Officiating Commissioner of Cuttack, to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department, Fort Saint George, dated Cuttack, 13th June 1867, No. 199 :—

1. In continuation of my letter No. 262 of 24th May. Reports received dated 3rd, 5th, and 8th June, from Pooree and Khoordah, on the Ganjam frontier, shew the prices of rice to be about 11 seers 4 chuttacks and 11 seers 13 chuttacks, Calcutta weight, per rupee. Some grain had been received from Ganjam *viâ* the Chilka, and the importation shews a tendency to continue. This trade is entirely carried on by Ganjam traders.

2. The demand for Government rice at the central depôts continues slack.

3. The Daloo rice had been harvested, and the out-turn of the later sorts was much better than the earlier.

4. The labouring classes find full employment on roads and embankment repairs, and cultivators were busy in their fields.

5. There is still some distress lurking in the Khoordha sub-division, which is provided for by rice-tickets, and house to house visitation, and relief centres under the Committee's supervision. Those who have rice stocks hold them tenaciously. Those who depend on daily purchase, occasionally find difficulty in procuring supply.

6. The cattle disease still continues, but the general health of the people is good. There has been no increase in crime, and the reasonable advent of the monsoon is most favourable to cultivation. Some anxiety is felt generally for the classes who for caste prejudices will not work; for the women and houseless poor who from poverty and want of building materials and thatching straw or grass, have been unable to repair their houses. Every effort is being made to assist them, but the general indolence of the people and apathy of landholders is inconceivable; and entire absence of combined action among the people to help themselves renders the unremitting exertions of Government officers less effectual than it would otherwise be. I can only compare all our efforts to benefit this unhappy people to attempting to make ropes of sand, or water run up a hill. However our motto is "Persevere," and with God's blessing and a good harvest in prospect we may succeed.

No. 370. ORDER THEREON, 26th June 1867, No. 1,420.

Miscellaneous.

1. Communicated to the Revenue Board and the Collector of Ganjam.

2. Copy to the Famine Relief Committee.

(True Extract.)

(Signed) W. HUDLESTON,

Secretary to Government.

To the Board of Revenue.
,, the Collector of Ganjam.
,, the Famine Relief Committee.
,, T. E. Ravenshaw, Esq.

Exd. S. T. Augustin.

W. 1620.

Comm^d 5th
Ens^n 1st. 4th 5th &
5 Companies.

Copy to
Francis Ellis
Comm^te.

45

26th June 67

14 Copies to the 2nd Reg^t Deep 27th
1 Copy " Col^l of Company
1 — " Francis Ellis Committee
1 — " T. C. Rawnsbury Esq^r